

Remarks

The present application is a continuation of Application No. 09/997,562 ("the '562 application"), in which a Notice of Allowance issued on April 20, 2004. The Examining Attorney in the parent '562 application, John Wilson, issued a final rejection with respect to the original claims 1-9 in an office action dated October 16, 2003. In a subsequent telephone interview, Mr. Wilson stated that the amendment of claim 1 to add the limitation of an "enamel-like finish ... would require further consideration and/or search," as set forth in the interview summary dated April 13, 2004.

Pursuant to the Examiner's statements in the '562 application, independent claim 1 has now been amended to state that a smooth enamel-like finish is created in the same step as creating the secondary and tertiary anatomy and smoothing the restoration. The same limitation is present in new independent claim 16. Accordingly, the claims of the present application, as amended, are believed to be patentable over the prior art. Should the Examiner believe that a conversation with applicant's representative would be useful in the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call applicant's representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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